

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OAS, UY

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL REACTION TO OAS FREEDOM OF ACTION RESOLUTION

REF: MONTEVIDEO 2614

1. SUMMARY: EL PAIS, THE NATION'S LARGEST CIRCULATION DAILY, ADDED ITS VOICE TO THOSE CRITICIZING BOTH THE RAPID CONVOCATION OF THE ORGAN OF CONSULTATION AND THE FREEDOM OF ACTION RESOLUTION. ALSO ACCUSING THE U.S. OF HAVING ITS HEAD IN THE SAND ON THE CUBAN MATTER, THE EDITORIAL SUGGESTED THAT URUGUAY'S TROUBLES ARE JUST BEGINNING AS IT IS IN A MINORITY POSITION IN A GROUP OF STATES WHICH IS PUSHING HARD FOR "CUBANISM, AFFINITY TOWARDS THIRD WORLD EXTREMISM AND ECONOMIC AND DIPLOMATIC CONFRONTATION WIT THE UNITED STATES...."

2. EL PAIS, IN AN AUGUST 2 EDITORIAL, CRITICIZED BOTH THE SUBSTANCE OF THE DECISION OF THE OAS ORGAN OF CONSULTATION AND THE ALL TOO RAPID CONVOCATION OF THE MEETING ON THE HEELS OF THE RIO TREATY MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL. THE UNITED STATES, IT ARGUED, "WITH THE INEFFABLE SIMPLICITY OF ITS DIPLOMATIC ATTITUDES", THOUGHT THAT THIS "LIFE SAVING" MOVE WOULD ELIMINATE THE CUBAN PROBLEM FROM THE INTER-AMERICAN AGENDA. HOWEVER, "THE CUBA CASE NOT ONLY HAS NOT STOPPED CAUSING INTER-AMERICAN WORRIES BUT ALSO WILL BEGIN NOW TO WEIGH ON ALL ATTITUDES AND TO DISTURB REGIONAL RELATIONS...(AND IT) IS GOING TO PROVOKE A PERMANENT TENSION FROM WHICH UNCLASSIFIED

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NOTHING POSITIVE CAN BE EXPECTED."

3. THE EDITORIAL PROCEEDED TO CRITICIZE THE "PRO-CUBAN IMPATIENCE" WHICH FORCED THE LIFTING OF THE TWO-THIRDS REQUIREMENT AND THE RAPIDITY OF THE CONVOCATION OF THE MEETING OF THE ORGAN OF CONSULTATION, ATTITUDES COMMON TO MOST URUGUAYANS AT THIS MOMENT.

4. EL PAIS, HOWEVER, ADDED TWO THOUGHTS PREVIOUSLY UNEXPRESSED. FIRST, ADMITTING THAT IT DID NOT HAVE DETAILED INFORMATION, IT VENTURED THE THOUGHT THAT HAD THE URUGUAYAN DELEGATION TENACIOUSLY OPPOSED THE IMMEDIATE CONVOCATION OF THE ORGAN OF CONSULTATION IT MIGHT HAVE WON A DELAY. SECOND, EL PAIS ADDED THAT URUGUAY WOULD UP AMONG THE MINORITY OF STATES. "THE COUNTRIES WHICH CARRIED THROUGH THE CUBAN RESOLUTION SHOWED AND SURELY WILL SHOW AGAIN, REAL DYNAMISM AND STRONG PRESSURE TOWARD THEIR CHOSEN DIRECTION: CUBANISM, AFFINITY TOWARDS THIRD WORLD EXTREMISM AND ECONOMIC AND DIPLOMATIC CONFRONTATION WITH THE UNITED STATES. IN SUMMARY, A SERIES OF POSITIONS WITH WHICH NEITHER WE NOR OUR GOVERNMENT ARE IN ACCORD." THE EDITORIAL SAID THAT IT WAS SOMEWHAT FRIGHTENING TO BE CRYING IN THE DESERT ON SOMETHING JUST AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH URUGUAYAN TRADITIONS AND CONVICTIONS. FINALLY, IT WARNED "CARRY US WHO KNOWS WHERE" AND THAT URUGUAYAN FOREIGN POLICY MIGHT BE FACING A DELICATE TEST.

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